REMARKS

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Although Figure 15 was included in the application as filed, the above paragraphs describing Figures 15 were inadvertently omitted.

Antecedent basis for the addition of these paragraphs is found throughout the specification, such as in paragraph [0005]:

A resilient sealing material that is substantially more flexible than the carrier material is disposed on at least portions of the laterally extending sides of the carrier for sealingly engaging the mated surfaces of the members at least adjacent their openings when the gasket is clamped between the mated members.

and such as in paragraph [0031]:

If desired to be applied only in localized areas of the gasket 20, resilient sealing material 32 can be applied in a variety of different ways, such as by screen printing, for example. In this regard, it should also be noted that the concave side 44 of the flexible stopper 40 can be merely coated (as in the concave side 144 on the stopper 140 shown in Figure 9) or partially or completely filled with the resilient sealing material 32, either locally or as part of a larger or even an overall coating of the carrier 24.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

With the addition of newly added Claims 67 and 68, Claims 1-68 are now pending in the present application. The newly added claims have been added to clarify the application as originally filed. Antecedent basis for the addition of these new claims is found throughout the specification and drawings as originally filed.

Serial No. 10/650,339 Page 18 of 19

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner has any questions or comments, or wishes to discuss this application in more detail, the Examiner is courteously requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 601,81,2003

Ronald W. Wangerow Reg. No. 29,597

FREUDENBERG-NOK GENERAL PARTNERSHIP Intellectual Property Department 47690 East Anchor Court Plymouth, MI 48170-2455

Direct Line: (734) 354-5445 Facsimile: (734) 451-2547

Serial No. 10/650,339 Page 19 of 19